

## SENTENCE STARTERS FOR GENERATING HIGHER-ORDER QUESTIONS

<b>Purpose</b>	Teachers can use this sentence starter tool to develop questions that prompt critical thinking in a response or to plan specific discussions or unit questions. Teachers may extend this tool by developing sentence starters to support strong student responses.
<b>Materials</b>	None
<b>Media</b>	None
<b>Topic</b>	How to Organize Your Teaching
<b>Practice</b>	Higher-Order Questions

**Sentence Starters for Generating Higher-Order Questions and Building Explanations**

**Part 1.** Generate questions that relate to your class content using the sentence starters as prompts. Think of effectively sequencing the questions or including follow-ups to produce more in-depth explanations.

ASK WITH....	QUESTIONS TO USE WITH YOUR CLASS
<p><b>For explaining a process or concept...</b></p> <p><i>How does ___ work?</i></p> <p><i>What was the sequence for ___?</i></p> <p><i>What are the different parts or steps involved in ___?</i></p> <p><i>Does the order for ___ matter? Explain.</i></p> <p><i>How would you use ___ to ___?</i></p> <p><i>How would you explain this to a 5-year-old?</i></p>	
<p><b>For analyzing and interpreting...</b></p> <p><i>What caused ___? What's another possible cause?</i></p> <p><i>How does ___ affect ___?</i></p> <p><i>How are ___ and ___ similar? How are they different?</i></p> <p><i>What is the purpose of ___?</i></p> <p><i>Why is this important?</i></p> <p><i>What information is missing?</i></p> <p><i>Which one doesn't belong in this group?</i></p> <p><i>Which one is biggest/strongest/best? Why?</i></p> <p><i>What's the author's point of view?</i></p> <p><i>What would happen if....?</i></p> <p><i>What does ___ symbolize?</i></p> <p><i>Why does ___ happen?</i></p>	

<b>For synthesizing...</b>  <i>What's the main idea or theme of ____?</i> <i>What generalizations can you make?</i> <i>How does __ relate to ____?</i> <i>What is a possible solution?</i> <i>What conclusions can you draw about ____?</i> <i>How does this connect with what we learned about ____?</i>	
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**Part 2.** Now brainstorm sentence starters that your students can use to generate responses to these higher-order questions. Think of including prompts that encourage explanations and the use of evidence to support ideas. A few examples have been included to get your list started.

SENTENCE STARTERS FOR STUDENT RESPONSES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I agree or disagree because....</li><li>• The reason why....</li><li>• According to the book....</li><li>•</li><li>•</li><li>•</li><li>•</li></ul>

The sentence starters may be posted on a wall or distributed as a handout as a reference during discussions.